

MARVEL

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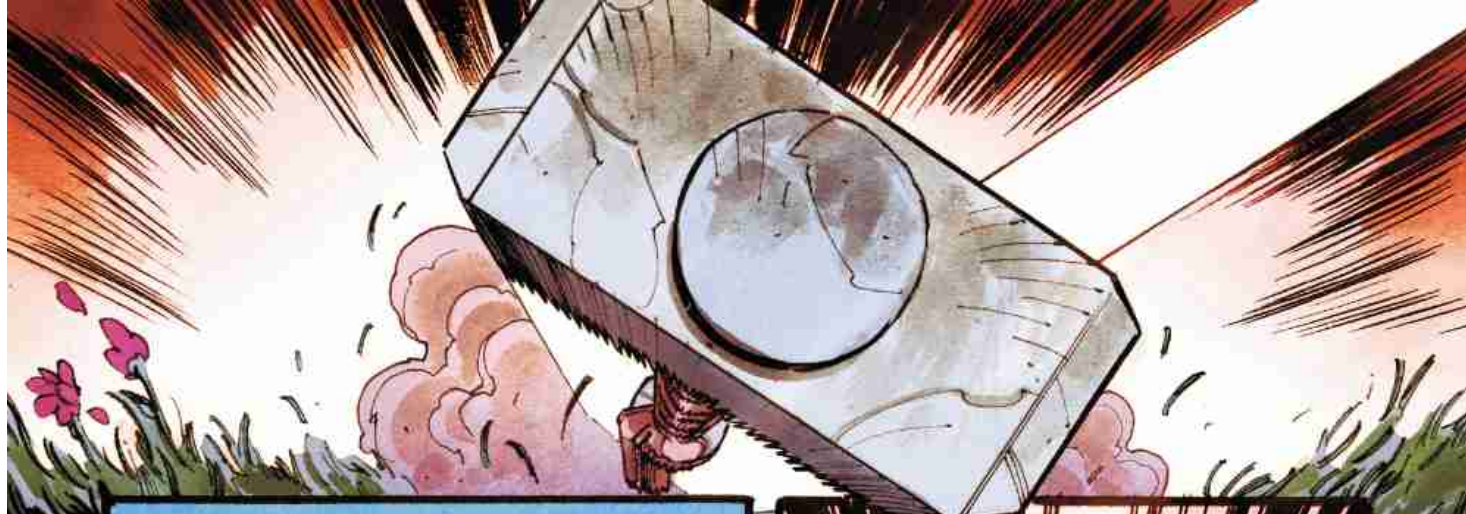
LGY#749

DONNY CATES
NIC KLEIN
MATT WILSON

THOR



The Realms-Shattering Finale Of
GOD OF HAMMERS





MJOLNIR
CAN'T HURT
YOU.

ASGARD.
LONG AGO.



I'M SORRY, FATHER... I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO FIND THE BALANCE OF IT.

NOTHING TO BE-- UHH-- SORRY ABOUT, SON.



UM... BUT--

DAMN THING WILL BE THE DEATH OF ME.

FATHER?



IT'S OKAY. HERE...



...IT BELONGS TO YOU ANYWAY.



I...I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY-- WELL, WHY IS MJOLNIR HEAVIER FOR YOU?

HAHA. SON, THAT DAMNED HAMMER HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN. THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT IN ALL EXISTENCE, AND IT DEFIES EVEN MY OWN UNDERSTANDING.

BUT WE ARE NOT HERE TO PRY APART THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE, BOY.



YOU'LL HAVE TIME FOR THAT WHEN YOU ARE KING.



TODAY, WE TRAIN!

AYE!



NOW...THE DWARVES OF NIDAVELLIR. THE ONES WHO MADE MJOLNIR.

THEY ONCE TOLD ME THAT... THE SPIRITS OF THE DWARVES WHO FELL DURING ITS CREATION...



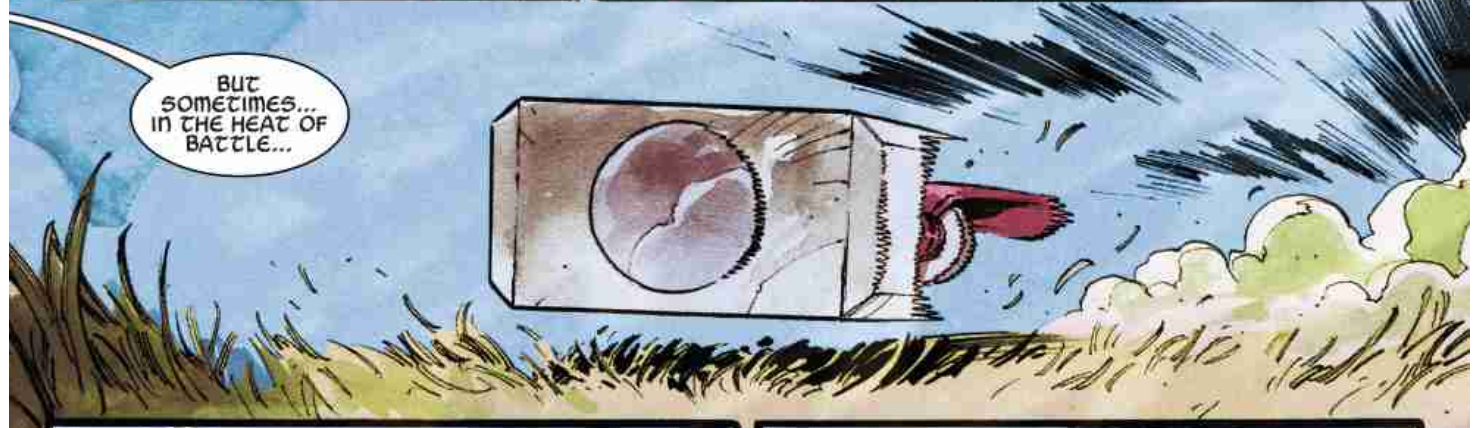
...THOSE WHO BURNED IN THE FIRES OF THE FORGE...



...THAT THEIR SOULS YET LIVE INSIDE OF MJOLNIR.

IS THAT TRUE?

DAMMED IF I KNOW, SON.



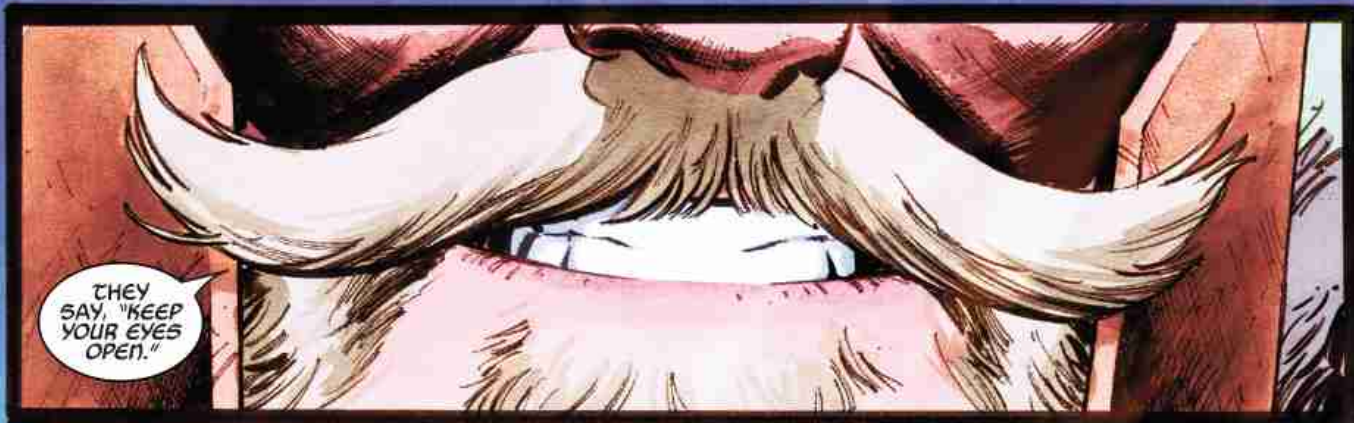
BUT SOMETIMES... IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE...



...WHEN ALL HAS SEEMED LOST...I HAVE GRIPPED THAT MALLET...AND I SWEAR I CAN HEAR THEM.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY, SON?



THEY
SAY, "KEEP
YOUR EYES
OPEN."



HA! WELL
DONE, BOY!
SEE? I KNEW
YOU COULD...



THOR...



...WHAT'S
WRONG?

WILL...WILL
THAT HAPPEN
TO ME? WHEN
I DIE, WILL MY
SOUL--?

son.



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT SUCH THINGS.
YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE
A PLACE IN THE
GRAND HALL OF
VALHALLA.

BUT ALL
THE STARS IN
EVERY SKY WILL
FALL COLD AND SILENT
BEFORE YOUR HEAD
LAYS TO REST. THAT
IS A PROMISE.
AND--

AND
YOU?

WHAT
ABOUT ME,
BOY?



CAN...

...CAN
YOU DIE?



no, son.
none of us
can. not
really.

IN
DEATH, I
WILL BECOME
WHAT I HAVE
ALWAYS
BEEN...

"...A LEGEND."

RAGHHH!!!



THOR

THOR IS THE GOD OF THUNDER AND ALL-FATHER OF ASGARD.

WHEN HIS HAMMER WENT MISSING AND PEOPLE ACROSS THE TEN REALMS STARTED BEING KILLED SEEMINGLY BY SOMEONE WIELDING IT, THOR AND HIS FATHER, ODIN, WENT SEARCHING FOR THE CULPRIT—THE PROPHESIED “GOD OF HAMMERS.” THEY FOUND HER IN THE RUINS OF BROXTON, OKLAHOMA, AND WERE SHOCKED TO LEARN SHE WAS IN FACT THE PERSONIFICATION OF MJOLNIR, WHICH HAD BECOME CORRUPTED BY THE SPIRIT OF MANGOG WHEN IT WAS RECENTLY REFORGED IN THE HEART OF THE SUN.

NEITHER THE WARRIORS OF ASGARD NOR EARTH’S MIGHTIEST HEROES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OVERPOWER HER. TO PROTECT HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS, THOR CALLED UPON HIS MIDGARDIAN BIRTHRIGHT—THE POWERS OF HIS BIRTH MOTHER, GAEA—ONLY FOR ODIN TO SACRIFICE HIMSELF TO TRANSFER THE ODIN-FORCE TO THOR AS WELL.

NOW THE GOD OF HAMMERS MUST FACE AN ENRAGED THOR AND THE POWER OF THE THOR-FORCE...

“GOD OF HAMMERS” FINALE

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RAAGHHH!!!

CAN'T
I?

YOU
ARE POWERFUL,
MJOLNIR. YOU ARE
THE LIGHTNING THAT
WALKS. A GREAT
AND DREADFUL
STORM.

YOU--CAN'T!!!
YOU CAN'T
CAGE LIGHTNING,
THOR!

BUT A STORM
NONETHELESS.

AND I AM
STILL YOUR
GOD.

AND
THIS.

IS
MINE.



NO!!! YOU CAN'T DO THIS! YOU THINK YOU'VE WON?!

YOU'RE SCARED.

YOU WILL FALL, THOR! LIKE YOUR FATHER BEFORE YOU! I CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM THAT HAMMER. I AM MJOLNIR! AND I WILL NOT BE--



I CAN FEEL IT. IN THE BALANCE.

I CAN FEEL YOU TREMBLING. TRAPPED.

AFFRAID.



GOOD.



THUNDER



WHERE...

WHERE HAVE YOU TAKEN ME? WHAT IS THIS?!



THIS...

IS NIDAVELLIR.



THIS IS A
FORGE.



THIS IS
WHERE YOU
WERE BORN,
MJOLNIR...

no!



...AND
THIS...

FWAAH



REAAHHH

FWSSSS



...IS
WHERE YOU
WILL DIE.





The thunder
howls across
the galaxy.

And beneath it...the
screams of a fatherless
child made god.

Made King.

His cries echo and shake the
mountains of Nidavellir with
every strike of his
treasonous hammer.

The last remnant of his
father's legacy coming
undone in his hands.

And on...

...and on...

...the wheel
turns.

Fire.



Rage.



Eternity.



Entropy.



Annihilation.



KEEP YOUR
EYES OPEN,
BOY.

THOR...

...OPEN YOUR
EYES.

ASGARD.
FOUR MONTHS
LATER.

HAGH!

CALM. JUST BREATHE...
YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING,
SON. YOU'RE
OKAY...

I... IN THE
DARK... I
HEARD...

I...

...I THOUGHT
I HEARD
HIM.



CAREFUL.
YOU NEED TO
REST. STAY,
AND I'LL--

REST?
NO. NO, I'VE
RESTED LONG
ENOUGH. I
NEED TO--
TO...

IT'S BEEN
TAKEN CARE OF,
SON. IT'S OKAY.
THERE'S NO
NEED TO--

WHAT?
WHAT HAS?



THERE WASN'T A
BODY TO BURY,
THOR.

WE'LL HOLD
A CEREMONY,
BUT THERE'S
NO RUSH.



RIGHT.

...

THANK
YOU.



THOR. I
KNOW THIS
IS HARD,
BUT--

I'M FINE,
LOKI. I DON'T
NEED--

NOW IS
NOT THE TIME
FOR YOUR STUBBORN
THUNDER, SON. LET
US HELP YOU, IT'S
WHAT--



I DON'T NEED
ANYTHING!!!



THOR.
PLEASE.
WE LOST
HIM TOO. YOU
MAY NOT NEED
US...

...BUT
WE NEED
YOU.

MOTHER...

I...
I JUST
NEED--

THIS IS
RIDICULOUS.
WE ALL
KNOW WHAT
HE NEEDS.

FINISH
GETTING DRESSED
AND MEET ME IN
THE ARMORY.

THE...
...WHAT?



BUT...HOW?
HOW DID
YOU--?

ALL OF
THE ANGELS IN
HEVEN, LITTLE
BROTHER.

WE ARE
NO DWARVES...
BUT WE DID
WHAT WE
COULD.

I...I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO
SAY, ANGELA.
WHY WOULD
YOU--?

I TOLD YOU
I WOULD CLEAN
YOUR MESS UP
IF I HAD TO.
CONSIDER IT
CLEAN.

YOU SHOULD
KNOW...

IT'S...

JUST
A HAMMER.
I KNOW...

I CAN
FEEL IT.

THERE IS
NO MAGIC
IN IT. NO
POWER.

I THINK
THAT DEPENDS
ON WHO WIELDS
IT...

DON'T
YOU?



FATHER...

I KNOW...
SOMEWHERE
YOU CAN HEAR
MY PRAYER...

I JUST...
I'M SO LOST.
I CAN'T...I CAN'T
SEE THE PATH
YOU--



KEEP
YOUR EYES
OPEN, BOY.



A KING
CAN'T RULE
FROM HIS
KNEES.



...FATHER?

TO BE
CONTINUED!

QUOTE THE RAVENS: THE HUGINN & MUNINN SHOW

WRITE TO US AT MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
AND MARK YOUR MISSIVES "OKAY TO PRINT."



Huginn, would you please get up? It is time to read the Midgardians' missives!

I am up, Muninn! I have just positioned myself so that my wings may best be stretched after our travels today.

Our travels? You mean when I flew from our perch to deliver the All-Father's command to Sif while you slept in? I do not think sleeping requires stretching—especially of the upside-down kind.

Impossible, you are! You cannot prove it was you and not I who delivered that message to Sif. Besides, it was a one-bird job! No need to step on feathers now that it's done. Fine, I'm up. Let us entertain the mortals!

Dear Mr. Cates & Mr. Klein,

Over the past decade or so, I've gotten into the history and culture of Norse mythology. It may have started with the recent and upcoming *God of War* game or my love of Thor and his run of comics. The only thing I know is that with every issue and run of THOR I read, the more interest and love I want to invest in him and the history surrounding him.

Mr. Cates and Mr. Klein, with your run, that determined path has now made me more driven and determined than ever. I don't know, Mr. Cates, how you can take an old-school hardcore character like Thor and make him more metal and in-depth, and how you, Mr. Klein, can express that in artistic ways that are both powerful and beautiful—it is a sight to behold.

The first few pages of issue #19 captivated me, but the last few pages are what really made my mind explode. I'm wondering, going into issue #20, who is the God of Hammers—Loki, possibly a Valkyrie, a returning Mangog or Thanos who you teased us with a few issues back? IDK, but like everyone who has loved THOR and your past works, I'm excited to find out and hungry for more.

Sincerely,
Bekeri Bousso

I have not heard of this game of which you speak, Master Bekeri, but I assure you the actual god of war is no fun at all. He's a big grump with no respect for Asgard or any of the Ten Realms!

'Tis quite true, Huginn! Tyr is certainly... well, he's disgraceful, to be frank. But that is no true matter here. Thank you for your kind words, Master Bekeri! We will be sure to pass them along to Donny and Nic.

We shall! And if you have further questions about Asgard's history, feel free to ask us—we are who Donny and Nic get their ideas from, after all.

This THOR run has been fantastic, and I have looked forward to every issue. I have now become a big fan of both Nic Klein and Donny Cates. I hope to continue seeing more of this great series in the future.

Tim Denton

We are so glad to count you among Donny and Nic's most loyal followers, Master Tim! They are indeed masterful storytellers, and I do think they have more tales to tell yet!

Hmph.

What's the matter, Huginn?

I should wonder lately where the praise is for us birds who create the stories Donny and Nic tell? They are quite brilliant transcribers, I admit, but their tales would read for naught without our input.

Huginn, what a silly bird you are! These Midgardians are writing to us. They very well know of our importance. You've no need to worry so. But since you seem to need to hear it today—you matter, Huginn.

Ah, Muninn, don't pull my wing! I am perfectly all right—I just wish more Midgardians would pay proper respects! But also... thank you. Next letter!

Dude, I'm really liking "God of Hammers" so far. The fingernail bleachers in the hand arena are gnarly! But it made me realize outer space in the Marvel Universe must be littered with ancient God body parts. Maybe we'll come across a wing or a beak being used as a truck stop or a Denry's?

Odin's black armor and red cape is a great look. But I feel like ever since Thor has been All-Father, he's been a bit irritable, and it seems the pressures of being king are getting to him. Have you ravens noticed anything off about him? Is he snapping at you more frequently? With Mjolnir gone and Stormbreaker destroyed, I think the only hammer within reach may be Throg's. I guess sometimes you need to send a frog to do a man's job.

Keep it coming, you got this.

Billy Goreski
Glendale, AZ

Goodness, that's a morbid thought...but an interesting one too. I certainly hope that space is not littered with bird parts—it can't be, right, Muninn? Us ravens do not spend much time in space, unless...are there raven-shaped space creatures out there, do you think?

I cannot say I know for sure, Huginn. The universe seems to always have tricks up its sleeve—every time one or the other of us says something couldn't possibly be real, we come up wrong! I think I will hedge my bets on this one and stay quite neutral.

Hmm... yes, I agree that is probably for the best. As for your other question, Master Billy, we have noticed the All-Father to be a bit out of sorts, as you've well seen. The lack of treats lately is truly abhorrent! If it were not for Nic, I do think I'd be rather treatless.

I rather think the All-Father stopped giving you treats because Nic started, Huginn. Too many treats makes messengering difficult, you know.

Dear Huginn & Muninn,

I don't know what they're feeding Donny and Nic over there at Marvel, but whatever it is, it's working! The "God of Hammers" arc has been leaving me speechless with each and every issue! First the living embodiment of the God Tempest! Now the return of Mangog! Who's next, the Destroyer?! Fafnir?! Too obscure? Either way, this series continues to prove its worthiness (pun intended) in my pull box! Donny, Nic and everyone working on this series continue the mighty fine work, and I'll continue to fork over all the hacksilver I've got!

Anthony B
Mesa, AZ

Treats are on the minds of many today! Huginn, do we feed Donny and Nic anything particularly out of the ordinary?

If by "out of the ordinary" you mean "of sharp wit and unparalleled adventure," then, in fact, we do!

Ah, I suppose stories can be "fed," in a sense. Good job, Huginn—that was actually clever!

Of course it was. I'm always clever.

...Sure, you are. Ah, look, you ought to enjoy this next letter!

Dear Muninn and Huginn,

I wonder how you feel about my changing around the billing: Muninn FIRST instead of Huginn. Heheh... Anyway, I just finished reading issue 19 of THOR. Whoa! While you dirty birds weren't in the issue at all, not that I could see, you were on the COVER, and that's

awesome! Where were you guys? I can't remember, maybe you went with Throg, Lockjaw and the other animal Avengers? Anyway, the book was still great without you (heheh...): Sif gets a talking to, Odin gets saved by Thor(!) and Forge Dwarves were slain by a hammer. Watch out, you birds—you might run into whomever has that hammer. I'd hate to see my favorite birds crushed to a pulp.

Take care,
Alan Bowman
Sagamihara City, Japan

You know, Muninn, I do enjoy this letter. Master Bowman values us ravens—he noticed we were on that cover! I think I will happily acknowledge that you ought to be billed first sometimes.

That's rather big of you, Huginn! I must say, I think I may actually be proud of you right now.

It was a good cover! We should be on more covers. Do you think we could convince Nic to put us on more covers?

It would not hurt to ask, I think! We are members of our own hero team now, as Master Bowman has pointed out.

More covers for all the Pet Avengers—and ravens!!!

After reading issue #20, THOR is just getting better and better! I was blown away by the big reveal at the end of the issue! Is Mjolnir a sentient being? A female God of Hammers? Someone that has been trapped inside uru? Was Odin about to tell Thor that Mjolnir's true origin was someone Odin trapped inside the hammer? Is it the God Tempest created by Jason Aaron? Talk about confusion!

Another great job by Donny Cates, Nic Klein and the whole creative team! I can't wait to see how this all comes together in one final, climatic ending! Thank you for a great read!

BTW, I do have one thing that's been bothering me. This Thor does not want to be like Odin and everything he brought into his rule. But if that's the case, why does he look like him?

Josh

Another fun letter! So many questions—and challenging ones too! Good, they show you have strength of character, Master Josh. I believe issues #21 and #22 answered most of these questions—and if you have not picked up copies of such riveting chapters of our narrative, then that is your own folly. As for why Thor looks like Odin, *ahh*—

Do not finish that sentence if you intend to joke in poor taste, Huginn, Master Josh's questions are good—we ought to answer them well!

Oh please, he can handle a little ribbing. Hmmp!

You are the impossible one, I do think, Master Josh, excuse my companion, he's a bit cranky today. To answer your final question seriously, well—I cannot truly speak for the All-Father in this regard—but I do think that sometimes when we are feeling lost, we look to the people in our lives who faced similar situations, no? And what other king has Thor ever known but Odin? This is not to say that Thor has to act like Odin, not at all—and we often see that he does not. But they are related by blood, and I wonder if looking in the mirror to see both Thor and Odin looking back at him helps Thor reconcile his past and his present, his family with his individuality? But I'm also a sentimental bird, so perhaps I read too much into a mere style choice.

No, Muninn, even I must admit your thoughts on this matter warm my heart. You mortals do, as well—so fun to tease! So remember to send your prayers marked "OKAY TO PRINT," and see you next month!

NEXT:

IT'S THE 750TH ISSUE OF THOR!
CELEBRATING THE THUNDER GOD'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY, THOR
CREATIVE TEAMS OF THE PAST AND PRESENT COME TOGETHER
FOR THE FUNERAL OF THE ALMIGHTY ODIN!

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